

tireless efforts in promoting democracy in Burma and other parts of Asia and, specifically, for his initiative in drafting this resolution. House Resolution 274 addresses the human rights and narcotics problems in Burma in a constructive way. This Member hopes that Burma's generals understand that the Congress of the United States wants to promote cooperative ties between our two countries, but that would only be possible if they take effective action to expand human rights and democracy in Burma and to clamp down on Burma's massive opium production.

The Committee on International Relations unanimously approved House Resolution 274 on December 14. This Member understands the administration has no objections to the resolution as amended and approved by the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific and the Committee on International Relations, which I chair.

This Member urges all of our colleagues to support House Resolution 274.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. RICHARDSON].

(Mr. RICHARDSON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution which urges the governing State Law and Order Restoration Council to open a dialog with Aung San Suu Kyi and her National League for Democracy, release all political prisoners, repeal laws limiting freedom of association and expression, and help control the flow of heroin from Burma.

I commend Ambassador Madeleine Albright for her tremendous work on this issue. I encourage all Members to support the work of our U.N. Representative as she relentlessly pursues the cause of Burmese democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi. Ambassador Albright had a great meeting in Burma this fall with Aung San Suu Kyi.

I join Ambassador Albright's endorsement of the recent U.N. resolution which urges the Government of Burma to cease its violations of internationally recognized human rights.

The United States did not cosponsor the U.N. resolution because it did not focus on several specific problem areas that must be recognized. Additionally, the U.N. resolution fails to take into account the impact of recent developments in Burma that have given us cause for great concern. It is imperative that the SLORC understand that the United States and the international community will not tolerate threats or actions that suppress the advancement of the democratic movement in Burma.

The bill before us today sends a message to the SLORC that is consistent with Ambassador Albright's policy.

I would like to caution Members of the risks we take by treating Burma in

the same manner as we handled South Africa under its former regime. We need to weigh the merits of isolating Burma, prohibiting trade or investment, denying access to international capital flows, and employing economic pressures to force the current military regime, SLORC, to act according to our wishes.

We need to keep in mind that the United States economic role in Burma is limited. And, while I support efforts to employ what leverage we have to our advantage, I insist that we use it wisely.

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Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. RICHARDSON] for his strong support of democracy in Burma. I know the gentleman has traveled to Burma. He was instrumental in helping to gain the release of Aung San Suu Kyi from house arrest, and we commend the gentleman for his efforts and thank him for his participation in this debate.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BUNN of Oregon). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution. House Resolution 274, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### EXTENDING AUTHORITIES UNDER MIDDLE EAST PEACE FACILITATION ACT OF 1994

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2808) to extend authorities under the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1994 until March 31, 1996, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2808

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 583(a) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (Public Law 103-236), as amended by Public Law 104-47, is amended by striking "December 31, 1995" and inserting "March 31, 1996".

(b) CONSULTATION.—For purposes of any exercise of the authority provided in section 583(a) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (Public Law 103-236) prior to January 10, 1996, the written policy justification dated December 1, 1995, and submitted to the Congress in accordance with section 583(b)(1) of such Act, shall be

deemed to satisfy the requirements of section 583(b)(1) of such Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] will be recognized for 20 minutes, and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON] will be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN].

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2808 temporarily extends the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1994, which otherwise will expire on December 31, 1995.

That act was previously extended by Public Law 104-17, by Public Law 104-22, by Public Law 104-30, and by Public Law 104-47. H.R. 2808 extends the act until March 31, 1996, and includes a transition provision to permit the President to immediately exercise the authorities granted him by this extension.

Obviously, there have been a number of temporary extensions of the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act. We had anticipated that the most recent extension would be the last, because a new Middle East Peace Facilitation Act was included in the conference report on the Foreign Operations Appropriations Act, H.R. 1868, and we expected that bill to be enacted into law by now. Regrettably, that bill has been stalled because of a disagreement over an unrelated matter, and we are now confronted by the need to once again extend the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1994.

This temporary extension was requested by the State Department, and I am not aware of any objection to it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. HAMILTON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, first I want to commend the chairman, the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] for bringing the bill before the House and to let him know that I give my full support to it. I would prefer that we had in place at this time the 18 month new Middle East Peace Facilitation Act that is part of the foreign operations conference report already approved by the House. I think a longer term MEPFA would strengthen the peace process.

Unfortunately, because another item in that conference report remains in disagreement with the other body, we need to move yet another short-term extension of the existing law at this time.

I also want to note that adopting this bill today and enacting the full 1 month MEPFA is the best possible way to pay tribute to the memory of Prime Minister Rabin and to support the quest for peace that Prime Minister Perez described here last week.

Prime Minister Perez, when he was here last week, specifically and strongly endorsed MEPFA as important to

the continued success of the peace process. We offer these two prime ministers then our support by our actions today in passing this bill. Today we have an opportunity to help the Middle East peace process move forward. I urge the adoption of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York [Mr. ENGEL].

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend and colleague from Indiana for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, first of all, to say that bringing this up again, I think the fifth time, reminds me of the old saying by Yogi Berra saying: "it is deja vu all over again."

We have had these temporary extensions time and time again. This is no way to run things. This is no way to fund the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act. I think the process is, frankly, terrible.

We ought to be marking up a bill that I introduced many, many months ago to have peace facilitation, or the Helms-Pell bill, which the Senate has discussed. To me, this is the way it ought to be done, not a simple extension. Every time we come back here, a month later, 2 months later, 3 months later, nothing has been done.

I think the chairman is absolutely right: This House did pass a new Middle East Peace Facilitation Act as part of the foreign operations appropriations bill. Unfortunately, that bill is stalled due to a fight on abortion, which has nothing to do with foreign operations in terms of funding MEPFA, so we are being held hostage once again.

This ought not to be the way that we fund things. This ought not to be the way that we do things. Prime Minister Rabin lost his life in the fight for peace. Certainly as partners in the peace process, the United States ought to be doing things in a little better way:

Quite frankly, our Government here is shut down because appropriations bills were not passed. The majority here has not done its job by the end of the fiscal year and passed the appropriations bills. That is why our Government here is shut down. The Republican leadership talks about a family friendly Congress and family values in Congress, and Congress is now going to be in session not only this week, but through next week and Christmas week and so on and so forth. If we simply had a continuing resolution to keep funding the Government the way we should have because the Republican leadership did not do its job, the Government would not be shut down.

Frankly, if the Republican leadership did its job and did not stall this over a dispute on abortion, we would have a foreign operations bill, and we would not have to be doing this now with a temporary extension of MEPFA.

So I just think the leadership here has not been doing its job, and that is why we are in the pickle we are in now. We are shutting down our Government,

we are not fulfilling our obligations, we are stalling Middle East peace by not having MEPFA in place. Not only is the PLO not being funded, but the Government of Israel, the Government of Egypt, and other countries that get foreign aid are not getting their foreign aid, because, again, we are not passing the foreign operations bill, which is what we should be doing.

So while I certainly support peace and I certainly will support this, I think it is a tribute to Prime Minister Rabin and Prime Minister Perez, who came here last week, this is no way to run a Government. This is no way to run foreign operations. This is no way to have an extension for the fifth time again. We ought to be doing a markup of a separate bill and ought to be passing the foreign operations bill. I tell you, comes March 31, we could be coming here again asking for another extension. This is not fair for the Middle East peace process, and it just to me shows a tremendous lack of leadership in the way this House is run.

So, Mr. Speaker, I will support this, very reluctantly, this way, because while I certainly support peace, I think, as I have said before, that we must hold all parties to the agreements feet to the fire. I am not worried about the Israeli Government not keeping its end of the bargain, I worry about Yasser Arafat and the PLO. He has agreed to a number of things. I think we should hold his feet to the fire.

I want to see those covenants calling for the destruction of Israel removed from the PLO, from the Palestinian Council. I want the Palestinian Council to remove that. I want them to agree to everything that they agreed to when they signed the Middle East peace facilitation act, nothing more, nothing less.

But if Yasser Arafat and the PLO and the Palestinians said they would do certain things, then we ought to make them do those certain things before American aid flows. I think American aid should flow, because American aid is very, very important to the peace process. But I also think when parties say they are going to do something, they have an obligation to fulfill what they say. That is all we are looking for. That is why it is important to have new MEPFA language, not to simply keep renewing the old one.

Again, I reluctantly go along with this. I hope we will not be back here on March 31 doing the same thing all over again.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2808.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof)

the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2808 and House Resolution 274, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

#### REAUTHORIZING TIED AID CREDIT PROGRAM OF EXPORT-IMPORT BANK

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2203) to reauthorize the tied aid credit program of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and to allow the Export-Import Bank to conduct a demonstration project, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2203

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF TIED AID CREDIT PROGRAM.

(a) Section 10(c)(2) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635i-3(c)(2)) is amended by striking "1995" and inserting "1997".

(b) Section 10(e) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635i-3(e)) is amended by striking the first sentence and inserting the following: "There are authorized to be appropriated to the Fund such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 1996 and 1997."

#### SEC. 2. AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT A DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.

Notwithstanding section 4701(a)(1)(A) of title 5, United States Code, the Export-Import Bank of the United States may conduct a demonstration project in accordance with section 4703 of such title.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Delaware [Mr. CASTLE] will be recognized for 20 minutes, and the gentleman from New York [Mr. FLAKE] will be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware [Mr. CASTLE].

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 2203, a bill that protects American businesses from unfair trading practices of other countries, primarily Japan and Germany. I am grateful to enjoy the support of Representative JIM LEACH, chairman of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services. On the other side of the aisle, Representative GONZALEZ, former committee chairman, and Representative FLAKE, the ranking member of the subcommittee have provided their strong support